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September 4, 1903

Texas quarantine authorities cut off communication with Monterey, Linares, and Victoria.

LAREDO, TEX., *August 29, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

The State quarantine officer telegraphs cut off communication from Monterey, Linares, Victoria. No one to enter Texas from these points under five days. Cordon needs strengthening to meet new conditions.

HAMILTON.

No cases of yellow fever have originated at Monterey.

August 31, 1903.

HAMILTON, *Laredo, Tex.:*

It is understood no cases have originated in Monterey and that sick refugees are now isolated in hospital. Wire further facts.

GLENNAN.

LAREDO, TEX., *September 1, 1903.*

WYMAN:

No cases known to have originated in Monterey. Consul-general states effective detention quarantine now established against infected points. Many rumors—nothing definite. * * *

HAMILTON.

Danger of introduction of yellow fever into Monterey.

August 26, 1903.—The following is received from Consul-General Hanna, of Monterey, to-day, under date of August 25, 1903:

I understand that there are several cases of fever at Linares, but secretary of state of Nuevo Leon has informed me officially that no persons from Tamaulipas (State) are allowed to come to Monterey until they have been away from there five days, and that no persons are allowed to come from Linares to Montemorelos or to Monterey until they have been away five days, and that travel from that direction is now stopped from all parts having fever.

I yesterday had information which I considered reliable that yellow fever was epidemic at Linares, and again to-day I saw a letter from that place, which reached here with letter of consul-general, stating that there were 14 deaths daily from yellow fever. The city is panic-stricken. Linares is 90 miles from Monterey; 8,000 inhabitants.

Montemorelos, 31 miles from Linares and 59 from Monterey, has 5,000 inhabitants in city proper and 12,000 in municipal district, with intermediate villages. Yellow fever is gradually getting closer to Monterey, if it has not already reached there. Although Dr. Turpin has failed to find stegomyia in Monterey, he told me he caught mosquitoes at his office, which is in center of city. There are more mosquitoes and more likely to be stegomyia near the railroad depots;

therefore his findings prove nothing at present. I have no doubt that yellow fever will reach Monterey this season, probably late, unless its further advance is stopped at Linares, as the country from Montemorelos to Monterey is full of small villages and ranches where disease will scatter broadcast. It will then be impossible to keep it out of Monterey. The rains have been plentiful and mosquito-breeding places are numerous.

Conditions at Monterey—Precautions taken by Mexican Government.

LAREDO, TEX., August 17, 1903.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge telegram dated August 10, 1903, viz:

Proceed Monterey. Submit nomination and place on duty temporary acting assistant and three guards. Upon completion duty rejoin station.

Telegram received in evening late, but selected temporary acting assistant and guards to report to me early in morning for duty. August 11 instructed temporary acting assistant on train; also placed on duty guards, one on footbridge, the other two at railroad bridge.

I took afternoon train of August 11 for Monterey and telegraphed bureau from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, I had left for Monterey. August 12 arrived at Monterey.

Monterey, Mexico, the capital of the State of Nuevo Leon, has about 75,000 inhabitants, probably more including the municipality, with an area of 26½ square miles. The altitude of city is 1,624 feet. Distance by railroad from Laredo, Tex., 168 miles; from Eagle Pass, Tex., 284 miles; from Tampico, 322 miles; from Victoria (now infected), 175 miles; from Linares (1 case yellow fever in July), 90 miles.

I found the streets fairly clean. The central portion of the city is paved with semivitrified brick and cobblestone. The center of city is pretty well drained, being rolling. The three trunk lines of railroads, viz, Mexican Central, National de Mexico, and International, have their freight and passenger depots in the same part of city within a few blocks of each other. This is a low part of the city and water accumulates and stands for some time, therefore a good breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Consul-General Hanna, who had been taking quite an interest in the quarantine and health of city, was pleased that I had come to look over situation; he knew of no cases nor suspicion of cases, and he frequently inquires. Visited railroad engineer reported sick with yellow fever at Monterey Hospital (he was reported at Laredo to be under quarantine or guard) that evening, and I found him not under guard and suffering from an attack of appendicitis.

I saw Doctor Turpin, at one time acting assistant surgeon Marine-